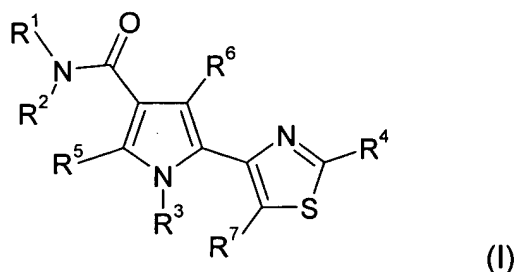


Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A compound of formula (I):



wherein:

(a) R¹ and R² are defined as follows:

(1) R¹ is hydrogen[,], or lower alkyl; and R² is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkoxy-lower alkyl, lower alkoxy-carbonylamino, -(CH₂)_m-R^{2a} and -NHC(O)-R^{2a}; or

(2) R¹ and R² together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered, saturated heterocyclic ring optionally containing one or two further heteroatom(s) independently selected from the group consisting of: nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heterocyclic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by a substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, amino, lower alkylamino, fluorinated lower alkyl and fluorinated lower alkoxy;

(b) R^{2a} is selected from the group consisting of:

(1) cycloalkyl, optionally mono-, di-, tri- or tetra-substituted, independently, by a substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl and fluorinated lower alkoxy;

(2) cycloalkenyl, optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by a substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy;

(3) a 5- or 6-membered monovalent saturated heterocyclic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heterocyclic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by a substituent selected from the group consisting of: hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, amino, lower alkylamino, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy;

(4) a 5- or 6-membered monovalent heteroaromatic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heteroaromatic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by a substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, amino, and lower alkylamino; or

(5) phenyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by a substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy or nitro;

(c) R^3 is selected from the group consisting of: lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkoxy-lower alkyl, di-phenyl-lower alkyl, or $-(CH_2)_n-R^{3a}$;

(d) R^{3a} is selected from the group consisting of:

(1) cycloalkyl, which may optionally be fused to a phenyl ring; or cycloalkyl which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by a substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy;

(2) cycloalkenyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by a substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy;

(3) a 5- or 6-membered monovalent saturated heterocyclic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen,

oxygen and sulfur, said heterocyclic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by a substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, amino, lower alkylamino, fluorinated lower alkyl ~~or~~and fluorinated lower alkoxy;

(4) a 5-or 6-membered monovalent heteroaromatic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heteroaromatic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by a substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, amino ~~or~~and lower alkylamino; ~~or~~and (5) phenyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by a substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy ~~or~~and nitro;

(e) R^4 is selected from the group consisting of:

(1) lower alkyl[.];

(2) lower alkoxy-carbonyl;

(3) cycloalkyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by a substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl ~~or~~and fluorinated lower alkoxy;

(4) a 5-or 6-membered monovalent heteroaromatic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heteroaromatic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by a substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, amino, and lower alkylamino;

(5) phenoxy-lower alkyl, wherein the phenyl moiety may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by a substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy ~~or~~and nitro; ~~or~~and

(6) phenyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by a substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower

alkoxy, halogen, lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy ~~or~~and nitro; or two adjacent substituents of the said phenyl residue together are $-\text{O}-(\text{CH}_2)_p-\text{O}-$ or $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{O}-$;

(f) R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, halogen ~~or~~and fluorinated methyl;

(g) R^7 is hydrogen, lower alkyl or halogen;

(h) m is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

(i) n is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

(j) p is 1, 2 or 3;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 1, wherein R^1 is hydrogen.

3. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to ~~any of~~ claim 1, wherein R^2 is lower alkyl or a residue $-(\text{CH}_2)_m-\text{R}^{2a}$ or $-\text{NHC}(\text{O})-\text{R}^{2a}$.

4. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 1, wherein R^2 is a residue $-(\text{CH}_2)_m-\text{R}^{2a}$ or $-\text{NHC}(\text{O})-\text{R}^{2a}$.

5. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 4, wherein R^{2a} is a cycloalkyl ~~residues~~ with three to six carbon atoms, which may optionally be mono- or tetra-substituted, independently, by lower alkyl and/or hydroxy.

6. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 4, wherein R^{2a} is cyclohexenyl.

7. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 4, wherein R^{2a} is an unsubstituted 5-membered monovalent saturated heterocyclic ring containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen and oxygen.

8. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 7, wherein R^{2a} is piperidinyl, morpholino or tetrahydrofuranyl.
9. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 4, wherein R^{2a} is a 5- or 6-membered monovalent heterocyclic ring containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen and sulfur, said heteroaromatic ring being optionally substituted by lower alkyl.
10. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 9, wherein R^{2a} is pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, thiazolyl or isoxazolyl, optionally substituted by lower alkyl.
11. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 4, wherein R^{2a} is a phenyl residue which is optionally mono- or di-substituted, independently, by lower alkoxy, halogen, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy or nitro.
12. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 1, wherein m is 0 or 1.
13. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 1, wherein R¹ and R² together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered, saturated heterocyclic ring optionally containing an oxygen atom in the ring.
14. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 13, wherein R¹ and R² together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached are unsubstituted pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl or morpholino.
15. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 1, wherein R³ is a residue $-(CH_2)_n-R^{3a}$.

16. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 15, wherein R^{3a} is cycloalkyl fused to a phenyl ring.

17. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 15, wherein R^{3a} is an unsubstituted cycloalkyl ~~residue~~ with five or six carbon atoms.

18. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 15, wherein R^{3a} is a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen and oxygen, said heterocyclic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by lower alkyl.

19. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 15, wherein R^{3a} is a 5- or 6-membered heteroaromatic ring containing one heteroatom selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heteroaromatic ring being optionally mono-substituted by lower alkyl.

20. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 15, wherein R^{3a} is phenyl optionally mono- or di-substituted, independently, by a substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy ~~or~~and nitro.

21. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 15, wherein n is 1 or 2.

22. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 1, wherein R⁴ is unsubstituted cyclohexyl.

23. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 1, wherein R⁴ is a 5- or 6-membered heteroaromatic ring containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen and sulfur, said heteroaromatic ring being optionally mono-substituted by lower alkyl.

24. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 1, wherein R⁴ is phenyl mono- or di-substituted, independently, by a substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy ~~or~~and nitro.

25. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 1, wherein R⁴ is phenyl ~~with two adjacent substituents of a phenyl residue R⁴ which~~ together are -O-(CH₂)-O- or -(CH₂)₂-O-.

26. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 1, selected from the group consisting of:

(a) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,

(b) 1-(4-Methoxy-benzyl)-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,

(c) *rac*-1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid sec-butylamide,

(d) *rac*-1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenoxy)methyl]-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid sec-butylamide,

(e) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid isobutyl-amide,

(f) 1-Furan-2-ylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid isobutyl-amide,

(g) 1-(4-Methoxy-benzyl)-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid isobutyl-amide,

(h) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid allylamide,

(i) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid cyclohexylmethyl-amide,

- (j) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-2-methyl-5-(2-pyrazin-2-yl-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid cyclohexylmethyl-amide, and
(k) pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

27. (Currently amended) The A compound according to claim 1, selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) 1-(4-Methoxy-benzyl)-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid cyclohexylmethyl-amide,
(b) 5-[2-(4-Methoxy-phenoxy-methyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-1-(3-methoxy-propyl)-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid cyclohexylmethyl-amide,
(c) 4-[1-[2-(3,4-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-4-(3-methoxy-propylcarbamoyl)-5-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl]-thiazole-2-carboxylic acid ethyl ester,
(d) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid piperidin-1-ylamide,
(e) N'-{1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonyl}-hydrazinecarboxylic acid ethyl ester,
(f) *rac*-1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid *sec*-butylamide,
(g) {1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrol-3-yl}-piperidin-1-yl-methanone,
(h) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid phenylamide,
(i) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid pyrimidin-2-ylamide,
(j) *rac*-1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid (5-hydroxy-2,2,6-trimethyl-cyclohexylmethyl)-amide,
and
(k) pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

28. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 1, selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) 5-[2-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1-(3-trifluoromethoxy-benzyl)-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (b) 1-Benzyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (c) {1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrol-3-yl}-pyrrolidin-1-yl-methanone,
- (d) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (e) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (f) 5-(2-Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl-thiazol-4-yl)-1-cyclohexylmethyl-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (g) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (h) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (i) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-2-methyl-5-[2-(4-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (j) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide, and
- (k) pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

29. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A compound according to claim 1, selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-2-methyl-5-(2-m-tolyl-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (b) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-2-methyl-5-(2'-methyl-[2,4']bithiazolyl-4-yl)-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,

- (c) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-ethyl-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (d) 5-[2-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-1-cyclohexylmethyl-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (e) 5-[2-(4-tert-Butyl-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-1-cyclohexylmethyl-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (f) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(2,3-dihydro-benzofuran-5-yl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (g) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-2-methyl-5-(2-p-tolyl-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (h) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(6-methoxy-pyridin-3-yl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (i) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (j) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-2-methyl-5-[2-(4-nitro-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide, and
- (k) pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

30. (Currently amended) The A compound according to claim 1, selected from the group consisting of:

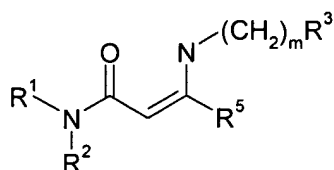
- (a) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid pentylamide,
- (b) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid propylamide,
- (c) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid cyclohexylamide,
- (d) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid cyclopentylamide,
- (e) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid cyclopropylamide,

- (f) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid cyclobutylamide,
- (g) (*trans*) *rac*-1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid (2-hydroxy-cyclopentyl)-amide, and
- (h) pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

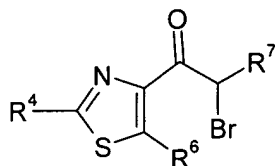
31. (Currently amended) The A compound according to claim 1, selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) 1-(4-Chloro-benzyl)-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (b) 1-(3,4-Dichloro-benzyl)-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (c) 1-(3,4-Dimethyl-benzyl)-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (d) 1-(3,4-Dimethoxy-benzyl)-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (e) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-hydroxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (f) 1-(4-Isopropyl-benzyl)-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (g) 5-[2-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1-pyridin-2-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
- (h) 1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-(2-cyclohexyl-thiazol-4-yl)-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide, and
- (i) pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

32. (Withdrawn) A process for the manufacture of compounds of formula (I) as defined in claim 1, which process comprises reaction of an enamine of formula A:



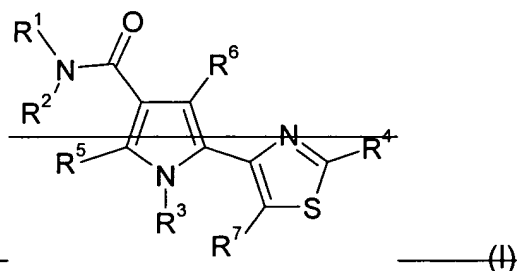
wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^5 and m are as defined claim 1;
 with an alfa-bromoketone of formula B:



wherein R^4 , R^6 and R^7 are as defined claim 1.

33. (Original) A compound manufactured by a process according to claim 32.

34. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
 formula (I)



wherein

R^4 is hydrogen, or lower alkyl;

R^2 is hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkoxy lower alkyl, lower alkoxy carbonylamino, $-(CH_2)_m R^{2a}$ or $NHC(O) R^{2a}$;

or R^1 and R^2 together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered, saturated heterocyclic ring optionally containing one or two further heteroatom(s) independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heterocyclic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy,

~~lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, amino, lower alkylamino, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy;~~

~~R^{2a} is cycloalkyl, optionally mono-, di-, tri- or tetra-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; cycloalkenyl, optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; a 5- or 6-membered monovalent saturated heterocyclic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heterocyclic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, amino, lower alkylamino, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; a 5- or 6-membered monovalent heteroaromatic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heteroaromatic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, amino, lower alkylamino; or phenyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy or nitro;~~

~~R³ is lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkoxy lower alkyl, di-phenyl lower alkyl, or (CH₂)_n-R^{3a};~~

~~R^{3a} is cycloalkyl, which may optionally be fused to a phenyl ring; or cycloalkyl which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; cycloalkenyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; a 5- or 6-membered monovalent saturated heterocyclic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heterocyclic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, amino, lower alkylamino, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; a 5- or 6-membered monovalent heteroaromatic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heteroaromatic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower~~

~~alkoxy, halogen, amino or lower alkylamino; or phenyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy or nitro;~~
~~R⁴ is lower alkyl, lower alkoxycarbonyl; cycloalkyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; a 5- or 6-membered monovalent heteroaromatic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heteroaromatic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, amino, lower alkylamino; phenoxy lower alkyl, wherein the phenyl moiety may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy or nitro; or phenyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by, hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy or nitro; or two adjacent substituents of the said phenyl residue together are —O—(CH₂)_p—O— or —(CH₂)₂—O—;~~
~~R⁵ and R⁶ are each independently selected from hydrogen, lower alkyl, halogen or fluorinated methyl;~~
~~R⁷ is hydrogen, lower alkyl or halogen;~~
~~m is 0, 1, 2 or 3;~~
~~n is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;~~
~~p is 1, 2 or 3;~~
~~or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;~~

~~and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and/or adjuvant.~~

35. (Withdrawn) A method for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of a disease associated with the modulation of the CB1 receptor comprising administering to a patient in need thereof, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1.

36. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 35, wherein the disease associated with the modulation of the CB1 receptor is selected from the group consisting of psychic disorders, anxiety, psychosis, schizophrenia, depression, abuse of psychotropes, abuse and/or dependence of a substance, alcohol dependency, nicotine dependency, neuropathies, migraine, stress, epilepsy, dyskinesias, Parkinson's disease, amnesia, cognitive disorders, senile dementia, Alzheimer's disease, eating disorders, obesity, diabetes type II or non insulin dependent diabetes (NIDD), gastrointestinal diseases, vomiting, diarrhea, urinary disorders, cardiovascular disorders, infertility disorders, inflammations, infections, cancer, neuroinflammation, in particular in atherosclerosis, or the Guillain-Barré syndrome, viral encephalitis, cerebral vascular incidents and cranial trauma.

37. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 35, wherein the disease associated with the modulation of the CB1 receptor is selected from the group consisting of eating disorders, obesity, diabetes type II or non insulin dependent diabetes (NIDD), neuroinflammation, diarrhea, abuse and/or dependence of a substance, alcohol dependency, nicotine dependency.

38. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 35, wherein the disease associated with the modulation of the CB1 receptor is selected from the group consisting of eating disorders, obesity, diabetes type II or non insulin dependent diabetes (NIDD), abuse and/or dependence of a substance, alcohol dependency and nicotine dependency.

39. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 35, wherein the disease associated with the modulation of the CB1 receptor is obesity.